

Buffy Heater

From: Buffy Heater
Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 2:26 PM
To: Brian Downs
Subject: HB3676 draft

Brian,
HB3676 is on our list as needing to share information with the author (as has already been shared with house staff).

I reached out to his assistant via phone today – she recommended I share what we had directly with him via email.

Please see my draft below, I welcome changes.

For your information the Choosing Childbirth Act text is located at <http://www.ecapitol.net/hb1703.pdf?viewpdf~56th>

Good Afternoon Rep. Calvey,

My name is Buffy Heater and I am serving as the Okla State Department of Health legislative liaison, alongside Brian Downs.

We have had a few questions from House staff regarding HB3676, regarding the use of federal family planning funds for the Choosing Childbirth Act.

Staff have asked the question, “what are permissible uses of the federal funds?” OSDH staff have gathered information on this, it is shared with you below.

OSDH is allowed to utilize federal family planning grant funds according to an approved application by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Office of Population Affairs (OPA) and within the Title X family planning rules and regulations set forth in federal law.

From the Program Requirements for Title X Funded Family Planning Projects

https://www.hhs.gov/opa/sites/default/files/ogc_-_cleared-final-april.pdf

“To assist individuals in determining the number and spacing of their children through the provision of affordable, voluntary family planning services, Congress enacted the Family Planning Services and Population Research Act of 1970 (Public Law 91-572).” The law amended the Public Health Service (PHS) Act to add Title X, “Population Research and Voluntary Family Planning Programs.” Section 1001 of the PHS Act (as amended) authorizes grants “to assist in the establishment and operation of voluntary family planning projects which shall offer a broad range of acceptable and effective family planning methods and services (including natural family planning methods, infertility services, and services for adolescents).”

Additionally there does not appear to be language specifying Title X funds can be used after pregnancy is achieved. The purpose of Title X funds is to assist families in determining the number and spacing of their children and assistance with achieving pregnancy. Title X funding stops at achieving pregnancy – funds may not be used to care for women after they become pregnant. Title X requires information and counseling be provided about all options for family planning.

Federal Statutory References:

CFR Title 42/Chapter 1/Subchapter D/Part 59

Please let me know if it is helpful to you to discuss this and additional questions you may have.

Thank you,

Buffy

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